

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 OMB-01 EURE-00 /061 W

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O R 211732Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7804

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

DIA

USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR, VAIHINGEN, GERMANY

AMCONGEN MILAN

AMCONGEN NAPLES

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ROME 8356

USDOCOSOUTH FOR INTAF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: DC PRESENTS ELECTORAL PROGRAM AND CANDIDATE LISTS

REF: ROME 8278, 201744Z MAY 76

SUMMARY: DC SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI OUTLINED PARTY PROGRAM  
IN MAY 20 SPEECH TO NATIONAL COUNCIL. ZACCAGNINI FIRMLY  
REJECTED DC-PCI HISTORIC COMPROMISE AS WELL AS COMMUNIST'S  
LATEST CALL FOR EMERGENCY COALITION GOVERNMENT INCLUDING  
PCI. INSTEAD, HE CALLED FOR GOVERNMENT BASED ON NEW  
DC - SOCIALIST ACCORD, WITH CONTRIBUTION FROM SMALLER  
DEMOCRATIC PARTIES. HE BARRED ANY FUTURE COOPERATION WITH  
FAR RIGHT MSI. ANALYSIS OF DC LISTS OF PARLIAMENTARY  
CANDIDATES (PUBLISHED TODAY) SHOWS SUBSTANTIAL  
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NUMBER OF DC PARLIAMENTARIANS RETIRING (25 PERCENT).

ONLY COMMUNISTS SHOW LARGER TURNOVER, WHILE OTHER PARTIES HAVE CONSIDERABLY LESS "RENEWAL." HOWEVER, DC PRESENTING ONLY LIMITED NUMBER OF NATIONALLY KNOWN "NEW FACES" LIKELY TO BE ELECTED. AS IN OTHER PARTIES, TOP OLD GUARD LEADERS REMAIN IN POWER AND DC RENEWAL IMAGE FURTHER BLURRED BY BICKERING WHICH MARKED CANDIDATE SELECTIONS AND PERMANENCE ON LISTS IN SOME REGIONS (SICILY AND CAMPANIA) OF THOROUGHLY DISCREDITED "MACHINE" POLITICIANS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN SPEECH TO MAY 20 CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING, PARTY SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI OUTLINED DC ELECTORAL PROGRAM. MAJOR POINTS OF SPEECH INCLUDED REJECTION OF PCI DEMAND FOR ENTRY INTO NEXT GOVERNMENT, CALL FOR COLLABORATION WITH SOCIALISTS AND SMALLER, DEMOCRATIC LAY PARTIES IN GOVERNMENT OF "DEMOCRATIC SOLIDARITY," AND REJECTION OF ANY POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE ALLIANCE WITH FAR RIGHT MSI.

2. ZACCAGNINI BLAMED COMMUNISTS AND SOCIALISTS FOR CAUSING FAILURE OF LA MALFA PLAN FOR A LIMITED ACCORD ON KEY ECONOMIC ISSUES INVOLVING ALL PARTIES EXCEPT MSI. COMMUNISTS, THE PCI AND SOCIALISTS FORCED NEW ELECTIONS SINCE SUCH AN AGREEMENT IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE DC.

3. ZACCAGNINI FLATLY REJECTED BOTH THE IDEA OF A HISTORIC COMPROMISE BETWEEN DC AND PCI AND THE MORE RECENT BERLINGUER PROPOSAL FOR AN EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT INCLUDING THE COMMUNISTS. DC "CONFRONTO" (DIALOGUE) POLICY TOWARD PCI CONTAINS CERTAIN FIRM LIMITS INVOLVING THE "PRECISE SEPARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY" BETWEEN THE MAJORITY AND THE (PCI) OPPOSITION. DC REFUSAL OF BERLINGUER PROPOSAL WILL REMAIN "WHATEVER THE OUTCOME" OF THE JUNE 20 ELECTIONS.

4. AS ALTERNATIVE TO COMMUNIST PROPOSAL, ZACCAGNINI CALLED FOR FORMATION AFTER THE ELECTIONS OF A STABLE MAJORITY MADE UP OF FIRMLY DEMOCRATIC PARTIES. PCI, HE STATED, "SUBSTANTIALLY REFUSES" DEMOCRATIC METHOD  
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AS DC CONCEIVES OF IT. AFTER LAMENTING OVERLY "HARD AND UNGENEROUS" SOCIALIST CRITICISMS OF THE DC, ZACCAGNINI REAFFIRMED DC DESIRE TO COLLABORATE WITH THE PSI AFTER THE ELECTIONS. THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, REPUBLICANS AND LIBERALS WOULD HAVE A "VALID FUNCTION" IN HOPED-FOR DEMOCRATIC ACCORD. DC, HOWEVER, WILL UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDER EVEN AN "OCCASIONAL" FUTURE ALLIANCE WITH THE MSI. NATIONAL COUNCIL

GAVE IMMEDIATE, UNANIMOUS APPROVAL TO ZACCAGNINI'S  
POLICY OUTLINE.

CANDIDATE LISTS

5. DC CANDIDATE LIST FOR PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS  
PUBLISHED TODAY (MAY 21) IN PARTY DAILY IL POPOLO  
(CYS POUCHES DESK AND INR). COMPARISON WITH 1972  
LISTS REVEALS SUBSTANTIAL (25 PERCENT) RENEWAL OF  
DC PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES (IN TERMS OF FORMER  
PARLIAMENTARIANS NOT RUNNING AGAIN THIS TIME).  
THIS COMPARES FAVORABLY WITH LISTS FOR ALL OTHER PARTIES  
EXCEPT PCI (32 PERCENT). FIGURES FOR OTHER PARTIES  
ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS ARE: LIBERALS (16 PERCENT),  
SOCIALISTS (11 PERCENT), SOCIAL DEMOCRATS (7 PERCENT),  
REPUBLICANS (.5 PERCENT), MSI (7 PERCENT FOR SENATE,  
PERCENT FOR CHAMBER UNAVAILABLE).

6. MOST OF RETIRING DC PARLIAMENTARIANS ARE SECOND AND  
THIRD STRINGERS IN THEIR 60'S AND 70'S DRAWN FROM ALL  
PARTY FUNCTIONS. A DISPROPORTIONATE NUMBER ARE FROM  
PARTY RIGHT-WING FORZE LIBERE GROUP WHICH HAS DECLINED  
IN POLITICAL CLOUT SINCE 1972. HOWEVER, RETIREES INCLUDE  
SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF FORMERLY IMPORTANT OLD GUARD  
LEADERS SUCH AS TOGNI, PELLA, SPATARO, BO, SILVIO  
GAVA, VALSECCHI, SPAGNOLLI, FERRARI-AGGRADI, AND  
SALIZZONI. NOTABLE EXCEPTION IN LIST OF ELDERLY  
DEPUTIES WITHDRAWING IS 37-YEAR DEPUTY FROM BRESCIA

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ROME 8356

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(FRAU) IMPLICATED IN FINANCIAL SCANDAL.

7. DC, LIKE OTHER PARTIES, HAS INCLUDED MANY NEW NAMES ON ITS ELECTORAL LISTS, BUT VAST MAJORITY HAVE LITTLE OR NO HOPE OF BEING ELECTED UNDER PREFERENCE VOTING SYSTEM WHICH FAVORS THOSE CHOSEN BY PARTY TO HEAD LISTS. MAJOR NEW FACES LIKELY TO BE ELECTED FROM DC LISTS ARE RELATIVELY FEW IN NUMBER. MAONG MOST NOTABLE IN SENATE SLATE ARE: UMBERTO AGNELLI, FORMER ENI PRESIDENT GIROTTI, TWO NOTED ECONOMISTS (ANDREATTA AND LOMBARDINI), A FINANCIAL EXPERT (MINISTER STAMMATI), A LEADING JURIST (MINISTER BONIFACIO) AND THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF ACLI (CARBONI). CHAMBER LISTS INCLUDE INDUSTRIALIST/POLITICIAN PIERO BASSETTI, CISL LABOR LEADER VITO SCALIA, COMMUNION CONFIDENTIAL

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& LIBERATION LEADER BORRUSO, A NOTED SPACE SCIENTIST (BROGLIO) AND SEVERAL OTHER ATTRACTIVE NATIONALLY KNOWN NON-POLITICAL FIGURES.

8. DESPITE THE LACK OF MANY HIGH VISIBILITY CHANGES, DC LISTS HAVE BEEN "RENEWED" MORE THIS TIME AROUND THAN IN PRECEDING YEARS AND, AS NOTED ABOVE, COMPARE FAVORABLY WITH EFFORTS OF OTHER DEMOCRATIC PARTIES. HOWEVER, YOUNGER DC EXPONENTS PUSHING IMPATIENTLY FOR A "GENERATIONAL CHANGE" ARE GENERALLY DISILLUSIONED WITH THEIR LACK OF PROGRESS IN EASING OUT OLD GUARD. THEY ARE PARTICULARLY UNHAPPY WITH RESULTS IN CERTAIN REGIONS (CAMPANIA AND SICILY) WHERE ENTRENCHED CLANS IN ILL REPUTE (THE GAVAS IN NAPLES AND THE GIOIA MACHINE IN PALERMO) BLOCKED ANY MEANINGFUL RENEWAL.

9. HAD DC CARRIED OUT CHANGES DESCRIBED ABOVE IN UNITED AND PURPOSEFUL MANNER AND HAD A FEW TOP LEADERS TARRED WITH SERIOUS CORRUPTION CHARGES BEEN REMOVED, PARTY COULD HAVE MADE "RENEWAL" A CREDIBLE CAMPAIGN SLOGAN.

HOWEVER, FORMATION OF CANDIDATE LISTS MARRED BY CONSTANT PUBLIC BICKERING AT NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVEL.

10. IN PIEDMONT, DC LEFT-WING LEADER DONAT CATTIN MANAGED TO DOWNGRADE THE HIGHLY USEFUL AGNELLI CANDIDACY BY FORCING DIRECTORATE TO MOVE AGNELLI (AGAINST HIS WILL) OUT OF LOMBARDY TO ROME SENATE DISTRICT. DONAT CATTIN ALSO STIRRED UP HORNETS NEST IN TURIN BY PRESSURING DIRECTORATE TO OVERRIDE LOCAL DC'S CHOICE OF TOP VOTE GETTER SCALFARO AS TURIN DC CAPOLISTA IN ORDER TO INSURE HIS OWN PRIMACY.

11. IN TUSCANY, DISSENT IS RIFE IN LOCAL DC ORGANIZATION BECAUSE OF DIRECTORATE CHOICE OF ELDERLY, LEFTIST, MYSTIC (LA PIRA) TO HEAD FLORENCE CHAMBER LIST. A NUMBER OF RIGHT OF CENTER LOCAL LEADERS HAVE RESIGNED IN PROTEST - A DEVELOPMENT UNLIKELY TO HELP DC FLORENCE CAMPAIGN.

12. A REBELLION BY LEFT OF CENTER LOCAL LEADERS IN LOMBARDY RESULTED IN LAST MINUTE CANCELLATION FROM CONFIDENTIAL

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SENATE LISTS OF FOUR CANDIDATES DESIGNATED BY NATIONAL DIRECTORATE. (AT LEAST ONE OF THOSE DROPPED, FORMER REGIONAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT GINO COLOMBO, IS TAKING MATTER TO COURT.) SIMILAR REBELLIONS, WITHOUT SUCCESS, AGAINST DIRECTORATE CANDIDATES, ALSO OCCURRED IN SONDRIO AND SARDINIA, RESULTING IN WAVE OF RESIGNATIONS BY LOCAL LEADERS. MOST OF THESE INCIDENTS HAVE RECEIVED SIGNIFICANT PRESS PLAY AND ONLY SERVE TO PERPETUATE IMAGE OF DC DITHERING AND DISSENT. VOLPE

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